

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 02419 251316Z

51

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 250935Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 877

S E C R E T MANILA 2419

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS JAKARTA

E O 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PLOS, ID, RP

SUBJ: LOS: PHILIPPINES

REF: A) STATE 040746; (B) STATE 041787

1. CONVERSATIONS WITH JUSTICE SECRETARY ABAD SANTOS AT WHICH HE REFERRED TO "SEMANTIC" SOLUTION TO REGIME OF PASSAGE WERE FAIRLY CASUAL ENCOUNTERS AT RECEPTIONS BY AMBASSADOR AND POLITICAL COUNSELOR. NOTHING FURTHER TO ADD TO SUBSTANCE OF OUR REPORT ON THOSE CONVERSATIONS NOR DID WE RECEIVE INDICATION THAT JUSTICE SECRETARY MIGHT HAVE MEANT MORE THAN HE SAID OR IN FACT AWARE HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN CONVEYING ANY SPECIAL MEANING BY REFERENCE TO SEMANTIC SOLUTION. SINCE WE HAVE NOT YET SEEN DESCRIPTION OF BRITISH POSITION ON PASSAGE, HOWEVER, WE CANNOT SAY FOR CERTAIN HE DID NOT INTEND TO CONVEY SOMETHING MORE ENCOURAGING. WE WOULD DOUBT IT, IN VIEW OF PAST PHILIPPINE PERFORMANCE THIS SUBJECT, BUT RESERVE JUDGEMENT.

2. VIEW DIFFICULTY OF DETERMINING WHETHER WE MISSED INNUENDO, WE WOULD PREFER DELAY APPROACH UNTIL BRITISH STATEMENT RECEIVED. AS ABAD SANTOS NOT LEAVING FOR GENEVA FOR SOME WEEKS, WE SHOULD HAVE AMPLE TIME TO TALK TO HIM BEFORE CONVENING OF CONFERENCE. WE WOULD RECOMMEND AGAINST TRYING TO RAISE ISSUE WITH ANYONE

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PAGE 02 MANILA 02419 251316Z

OTHER THAN ABAD SANTOS AT THIS TIME.

3. WE ASSUME REFERENCE TO DEMARCHE TO PHILIPPINES NOTED PARA
1, REF B REFERS TO REPRESENTATION EMBASSY MAY MAKE TO ABAD SANTOS.
SULLIVAN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED JAKARTA.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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